Grade 4 Curriculum
Instructional Plan for Classical Language Arts: Grammar, Spelling, Handwriting, and Writing Process
Submitted by Steve Lehman
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	Content Type	Objectives	Standards	Assessment	Materials
AUGUST & SEPTEMBER	• Reading: • 24	 Define a sentence. Define/apply declarative and interrogative sentences. Apply capitalization/punctuation rules. Define/apply definition of exclamatory sentence. Write different kinds of sentences about one topic. Identify two parts of a sentence. Apply concept of compound sentences to correct run-on sentences. Apply comma rule to introductory words and direct address 1. ai and ay 2. oi and oy 3. every syllable has a written vowel, compound words, double-consonant words. 4. English words do not end in i, exceptions Grammar Sentence structure, o kinds of sentences Identifying subject and predicate nouns Handwriting: Correctly write all upper- and lowercase letters and numbers 0–9 Copy assignments from print to cursive 	 Fluency:4. Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension. a. Read on-level text with purpose and understanding. b. Read on-level prose and poetry orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression on successive readings. c. Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary. Conventions of Standard English: 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. b. Form and use the progressive (e.g., I was walking; I am walking; I will be walking) verb tenses. c. Use modal auxiliaries (e.g., can, may, must) to convey various conditions. W.4.7 Conduct short inquiry projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic. W.4.8 Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information and provide a list of sources. W.4.9 Recall and use facts from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and inquiry. 	Daily homework from Language book Daily homework for spelling Weekly pre-test and final test for spelling 3x weekly phonics homework for grades 3 & 4 in class writing and composition with monthly writing for revision and rubric grading Handwriting assigned for independent seatwork weekly Comprehension quizzes for reading weekly	Abeka language 4 Abeka: Spelling & Poetry 4 Zaner-Bloser Handwriting: Grade 4 Lessons 1-22 Language Use Handbook for Reading Phonics Textbook. Lessons 1-5: Handbook for Reading (Share with 3rd grade) 6-20: Fun with Friends 21-38 Quests for Adventure
O C T O B E R	• 20	 -analyze words to identify nouns. -apply plural spelling rules to nouns. -analyze sentences to determine subject/predicate. -apply plural spelling rules to nouns. -identify kind/number of noun. -identify irregular plural nouns. -recognize/apply abbreviations for months/days. 	O Writing: 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences. Conventions of Standard English: 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.	 Daily homework from Language book Daily homework for spelling Weekly pre-test and final test for spelling 3x weekly phonics homework for grades 3 & 4 	Abeka language 4 Abeka: Spelling & Poetry 4 Zaner-Bloser Handwriting:

	 Demonstrate comprehension by identifying/writing literary elements of a book. English words do not end in v, exceptions. Plural of words ending in f and fe ge and dge pattern Review lists 1-7 Grammar Punctuation review Capitalization review Recognizing and using 3 parts of speech;	a. Use relative pronouns (who, whose, whom, which, that) and relative adverbs (where, when, why). W.4.6 With some guidance and support from adults, use a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers. Learn to produce writing through printing, cursive, and/or typing (with sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of one page in a single sitting)	 Daily Reading assignments in class writing and composition with monthly writing for revision and rubric grading Handwriting assigned for independent seatwork weekly Comprehension quizzes for reading weekly 	Grade 4 Lessons 23-42 Language 21-38: Quests for Adventure 39-56: Across the Meadow Spelling Tests 5-8 The Duel
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	Content Type	Objectives	Standards	Assessment	Materials
N O V E M B E R	• 19	 Create figurative language. Apply capitalization rules for names, proper nouns, titles. Distinguish 4 kinds of sentences/end marks. Identify singular/plural nouns. Interpret possessive words/phrases. Analyze words to identify abstract nouns. Analyze words to identify compound nouns. Identify small words in compound words. Apply comma rules to items in a series. Demonstrate comprehension/creativity by writing topic sentences. The letter q travels with u ch=k, ch=sh, ch=ch Changing y to i and add es Grammar punctuation, abbreviations, possessive words Word usage (deciphering plurals, possessives and contractions) Forming plurals and common contractions Capitalization: First word in every sentence First word of direct quotations The word I Days of week and months of year, but not seasons First word in every line of poetry Holidays and special days First and every important word in: Titles of books Magazines, newspapers Poems, stories, songs 	 Writing: 3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences. a. Orient the reader by establishing a situationand introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally. b. Use dialogue and description to develop experiences and events or show the responses of characters to situations. c. Use a variety of transitional words and phrases to manage the sequence of events. d. Use concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey experiences and events precisely. e. Provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events. o Writing: 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences. Speaking & Listening: 6. Differentiate between contexts that call for formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and situations where informal discourse is appropriate (e.g., small-group discussion); use formal English when appropriate to task and situation. (See grade 4 Language standards 1 on pages 28 and 29 for specific expectations.) Conventions of Standard English: 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. o. Order adjectives within sentences according to conventional patterns (e.g., a small red bag rather than a red small bag) W.4.5 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose and audience. Respond to questions and suggestions from peers, and add details to strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing. 	 Daily homework from Language book Daily homework for spelling Weekly pre-test and final test for spelling 3x weekly phonics homework for grades 3 & 4 Daily Reading assignments in class writing and composition with monthly writing for revision and rubric grading Handwriting assigned for independent seatwork weekly Comprehension quizzes for reading weekly 	Abeka language 4 Abeka: Spelling & Poetry 4 Zaner-Bloser Handwriting: Grade 4 Language 39-56: Across the Meadow 57-70: Wonders of Imagination Spelling Tests 9-11 My Shadow

		Particular person, place, or thing Recognizing and using 4 parts of speech:noun,verb, pronoun, adjective Handwriting: Correctly write all upper- and lowercase letters and numbers 0–9 Maintain correct letter formation, uniform slant and size, correct spacing, letters that touch the line, and proper margins for overall appearance Use key handwriting strokes: slant, loops, tails, humps Evaluate writing for personal improvement Copy most assignments from print to cursive			
D E C E M B E R	• 15	 Demonstrate comprehension/creativity by writing a concluding sentence. Demonstrate comprehension by writing a paragraph using a graphic organizer. Correct run-on sentences. Interpret abbreviations for streets. Apply the correct format to address envelopes. Analyze sentences to identify direct/indirect quotations. Aapply punctuation rules to direct quotations. Classify nouns as person/place/thing. Words beginning with silent letter: wr, kn, gn k and ck ch and tch Dictionary skills Grammar: Recognizing and using 5 parts of speech: noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, adverb 	 Phonics: 3. Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words. a. Use combined knowledge of all letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morphology (e.g., roots and affixes) to read accurately unfamiliar multisyllabic words in context and out of context. Writing: 6. With some guidance and support from adults, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of one page in a single sitting. Speaking & Listening:	 Daily homework from Language book Daily homework for spelling Weekly pre-test and final test for spelling 3x weekly phonics homework for grades 3 & 4 Daily Reading assignments in class writing and composition with monthly writing for revision and rubric grading Handwriting assigned for independent seatwork weekly Comprehension quizzes for reading weekly 	Abeka language 4 Abeka: Spelling & Poetry 4 Zaner-Bloser Handwriting: Grade 4 Language 57-70: Wonders of Imagination 71-85: Through the Skies Spelling Tests 12-14 Penmanship and Writing Lessons 63-71

	Prepositions: o identify prepositional phrases o Conjunctions: o recognize and, but, or, nor, for, yet o Interjections: use correctly Writing: Write an original movie screenplay Capitalize: Words used as a name such as Mother, Father, Grandmother, and Grandfather Names referring to God and the Bible Initials Title of a person when it comes before a name Handwriting: Correctly write all upper- and lowercase letters and numbers 0–9 Maintain correct letter formation, uniform slant and size, correct spacing, letters that touch the line, and proper margins for overall appearance Use key handwriting strokes: slant, loops, tails, humps Evaluate writing for personal improvement Copy most assignments from print to	o 2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. • a. Use correct capitalization. • b. Use commas and quotation marks to mark direct speech and quotations from a text. • c. Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction in a compound sentence. • d. Spell grade-appropriate words correctly, consulting references as needed • W.4.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are culturally sustaining and rhetorically authentic to task, purpose, and audience.	
	improvement		

Content Type	Objectives	Standards	Assessment	Materials
A N U A R Y	 Differentiate words with similar meanings. Apply definition to identify subject/predicate parts of a sentence. Analyze words to identify action verbs. Recognize present tense verbs. Recognize/form past tense verbs. Demonstrate comprehension by writing book reports. Compare compound subjects/verbs to make them agree. Apply definition to determine past tense verbs/irregular verbs. Demonstrate correct usage of helping verbs with irregular verbs. Analyze subjects/verbs to determine agreement. Analyze words to identify non-action verbs. Grammar Sentence structure, synonyms, figures of speech Punctuation: End marks Commas To separate: Three or more items in a series, city from state in address, Yes or No at beginning of sentence Word study and diction: 	 Writing: 1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information. a. Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose. b. Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details. c. Link opinion and reasons using words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition). d. Provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented. Conventions of Standard English: 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. 4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.	 Daily homework from Language book Daily homework for spelling Weekly pre-test and final test for spelling 3x weekly phonics homework for grades 3 & 4 Daily Reading assignments in class writing and composition with monthly writing for revision and rubric grading Handwriting assigned for independent seatwork weekly Comprehension quizzes for reading weekly 	Abeka language 4 Abeka: Spelling & Poetry 4 Zaner-Bloser Handwriting: Grade 4 Novel: Black Beauty Lessons 74-94 Language Skills sheets start with lesson 84. 71-85: Through the Skies 86-102: Growing up in Early America Spelling Tests 15-18 Our Flag Penmanship and Writing Creative Writing starts with Lessons 74-94 Monday is journaling day. Pull that out as time throughout the week.

		their, there; to, too, two; learn, teach; can, may; good, well Handwriting: Correctly write all upper- and lowercase letters and numbers 0–9 Maintain correct letter formation, uniform slant and size, correct spacing, letters that touch the line, and proper margins for overall appearance Use key handwriting strokes: slant, loops, tails, humps Evaluate writing for personal improvement Copy most assignments from print to cursive Write dictated sentences Complete a weekly journal entry or "A Word to Live By" assignment			
F E B R U A R Y	• 18	 Analyze sentences to diagram simple subjects/ predicates. Analyze sentences to diagram compound subjects/predicates. Differentiate information as fact/opinion. Identify words used to make contractions using am, are, will. Apply proofreader's marks to identify errors in capitalization/punctuation. Compare subjects/ verbs that contain contractions to make them agree. Analyze verbs to identify tense. Apply definition to identify irregular verbs. Identify correct format in parts of a friendly letter. Capitalization words. Apostrophe rule, suffix -sion Words borrowed from other languages. Grammar: Recognizing and using 6 parts of speech: noun,verb, pronoun, adjective, adverb, conjunction Dictionary skills, glossary skills Capitalization of other items in address To set off words of direct address 	9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. 0 b. Apply grade 4 Reading standards to informational texts (e.g., "Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text"). Conventions of Standard English: 0 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. 0 3. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening. a. Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely.* b. Choose punctuation for effect.* c. Differentiate between contexts that call for formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and situations where informal discourse is appropriate (e.g., small-group discussion). W.4.2 Write text in a variety of modes: 0 c. Convey events, real or imagined, through narrative/short stories which orients a reader by establishing a real or imagined situation and introducing a narrator and characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, description, and pacing, to develop experiences and events or show the responses of characters to situations.	 Daily homework from Language book Daily homework for spelling Weekly pre-test and final test for spelling 3x weekly phonics homework for grades 3 & 4 Daily Reading assignments in class writing and composition with monthly writing for revision and rubric grading Handwriting assigned for independent seatwork weekly Comprehension quizzes for reading weekly 	Abeka language 4 Abeka: Spelling & Poetry 4 Zaner-Bloser Handwriting: Grade 4

	o After greeting of a friendly letter and closing of any letter	
	o Direct quotations	
	Quotation Marks:	
	o Before and after a direct	
	quotation	
	o Before and after titles of short	
	stories, poems, songs,	
	chapters, and magazine or	
	newspaper articles	

	Content Type	Objectives	Standards	Assessment	Materials
MARCH	• 17	 Understand the purpose of titles. Interpret figurative language. Analyze nouns to identify common/proper, singular/plural, compound, abstract nouns. Interpret possessive nouns/phrases. Analyze words to identify pronouns. Analyze sentences to identify antecedents for pronouns. Apply definition to subjective/objective case pronouns. Demonstrate comprehension by determining effects for given cause. Synthesize main points to summarize text. Analyze sentences to determine pronoun case usage. Identify adjective questions. i before e except after c or when sounded like a c preceding e, i, or y Benchmark: review 17-23 Plurals formed by adding s Grammar Recognizing and using 7 parts of speech: noun, verb, pronoun, adj, adv, conj, exclamation Apostrophes: o in contractions and possessive words Colons: To write time o In scripture references o After greeting of business letters Underlining titles of books, newspapers, magazines, ships, plays, and works of art The sentence: o Recognize and write good sentences o Recognize fragments o Correct fragments 	 Writing: 2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. a. Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension. b. Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic. c. Link ideas within categories of information using words and phrases (e.g., another, for example, also, because). d. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic. e. Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented. Writing: 7. Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic. 8. Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information, and provide a list of sources. Conventions of Standard English: 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English: 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. o. 5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings. a. Explain the meaning of simple similes and metaphors (e.g., as pretty as a picture) in context. b. Recognize and explain the meaning of common idioms, adages, and proverbs. c. Demonstrate understanding of words by relating them to their opposites(antonyms) and to words with similar but not identical meanings (synonyms). 6. Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed	 Daily homework from Language book Daily homework for spelling Weekly pre-test and final test for spelling 3x weekly phonics homework for grades 3 & 4 Daily Reading assignments in class writing and composition with monthly writing for revision and rubric grading Handwriting assigned for independent seatwork weekly Comprehension quizzes for reading weekly 	Abeka: Spelling & Poetry 4 Zaner-Bloser Handwriting: Grade 4 Language 103-120: Growing up around the world 121-138: Growing up where Jesus lived Spelling Tests 22-25 February Twilight Penmanship and Writing Lessons 113-129

		o Classify a sentence	wildlife, conservation, and endangered when discussing		
		according to its purpose: declarative, interrogative, exclamatory • Understand how to use these troublesome words: lie, lay; accept, except; affect; effect; beside, besides; between, among; burst, bust; have, of; less, fewer; off of, off; to, and; wait on, wait for • Use negative words correctly • Form contractions correctly • Writing Process: o Making an outline o Writing a library research paper	animal preservation).		
A P R I L	• 20	 Apply definition to identify parts of speech. Determine correct usage of a/an Analyze sentences to diagram subjects/verbs/adjectives. Identify/use correct adjective suffixes for comparison. Identify/use more/most before adjectives for comparison. Identify adverbs. Analyze words to differentiate between adjectives and adverbs. Apply definition to identify conjunctions. Demonstrate relationship of conjunctions in sentence by diagramming. Apply alphabetical order to words in non-consecutive letter order. Recognize and classify imperative sentences Recognize and correct run-together sentences Use specifics to write interesting sentences Recognize complete subject and predicate Identify simple subject and verb Recognize verb phrases Identify compound subject and verb 	 Vocabulary: Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area Writing: 4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. 5. With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing. Writing: 9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. a. Apply grade 4 Reading standards to literature (e.g., "Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text [e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions]."). Conventions of Standard English: 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. e. Form and use prepositional phrases W.4.2 Write text in a variety of modes: a. Opinion pieces in which the student introduces the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion and create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose. List reasons that support the opinion. b. Informative texts in which they clearly introduce a topic, group related information in paragraphs and sections; include formatting (e.g., headings), 	 Daily homework from Language book Daily homework for spelling Weekly pre-test and final test for spelling 3x weekly phonics homework for grades 3 & 4 Daily Reading assignments in class writing and composition with monthly writing for revision and rubric grading Handwriting assigned for independent seatwork weekly Comprehension quizzes for reading weekly 	Abeka language 4 Abeka: Spelling & Poetry 4 Zaner-Bloser Handwriting: Grade 4 Language 121-138: Growing up where Jesus lived 139-155: All Kinds of Animals Spelling Tests 26-29 Hide and Go Seek Penmanship and Writing Lessons 130-150

	Diagram simple subjects and verbsDiagram compound subjects and verbs	illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aid comprehension. Use facts, definitions and details to	
	 Understand agreement of subject and 	develop points.	
	verb	0	
	 Write an encyclopedia report using the 		
	writing process: take notes; make a		
	rough draft; check, polish, and rewrite		
	the rough draft		
	 Learn to use the Writer's Checklist 		
	 Grammar:Recognizing and using all 		
	eight parts of speech (add prepositions)		
	 Writing: Produce a Screenplay for a 		
	sequel to your favorite movie.		

Content Type	Objectives	Standards	Assessment	Materials
• 24 A	 Analyze dictionary entries to interpret elements. Identify encyclopedias, atlases, almanacs as reference materials. Analyze table of contents to locate various elements of books. Supply synonyms for given words. Demonstrate comprehension of word meanings, usages of homonyms. Analyze two parts of sentence. Analyze words to identify action/non-action verbs. Recognize/form past/future tense verbs. Identify adjective and adverb questions. Recognize abbreviations for names of days/months, titles of respect, streets Adding -ly to words ending in -ful g preceding e, i, or y Words beginning with wh Review of 24-32. Parts of speech: Recognize all eight parts of speech Diagram all parts of speech except preposition and interjection Verbs: Action, state of being, helping verbs Compound verbs; verb phrases Nouns: Recognize compound nouns Review common and proper nouns Use nouns as subjects Review singular and plural nouns Understand how to make nouns plural Pronouns: Identify antecedents Learn to correctly use subjective, objective, and possessive pronouns Understand how to diagram pronoun subjects 	 Speaking & Listening: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacherled) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. a. Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion. b. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles. c. Pose and respond to specific questions to clarify or follow up on information, and make comments that contribute to the discussion and link to the remarks of others. d. Review the key ideas expressed and explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion. 5. Add audio recordings and visual displays to presentations when appropriate to enhance the development of main ideas or themes. Conventions of Standard English: 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. f. Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.* W.4.1 Compose reflective, formal, and creative writing, which may happen simultaneously or independently, for a variety of high-stakes and low-stakes purposes. 	 Daily homework from Language book Daily homework for spelling Weekly pre-test and final test for spelling 3x weekly phonics homework for grades 3 & 4 Daily Reading assignments in class writing and composition with monthly writing for revision and rubric grading Handwriting assigned for independent seatwork weekly Comprehension quizzes for reading weekly 	Abeka language 4 Abeka: Spelling & Poetry 4 Zaner-Bloser Handwriting: Grade 4 Language 139-155: All Kinds of Animals 156-170: My New Name